



**ORDER OF
AUSTRALIA**



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

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Her Majesty The Queen

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CONSOLIDATED CONSTITUTION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

(as at 3 March 1986)

1. (1) The Order of Australia (hereinafter called "the Order") shall consist of a General Division and a Military Division.

(2) A person appointed to the Order shall be appointed in the General Division or in the Military Division.

(3) Appointments to the Order shall be as Companion, Officer, or Member.

(4) Every Australian citizen appointed to the Order shall be a member of the Order, and every other person appointed to the Order shall be an honorary member of the Order.

(5) There shall be a Medal of the Order called the "Medal of the Order of Australia".

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

2. (1) The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order.

(2) Where a person ceases to hold office as Governor-General, he or she shall continue to be a member of the Order in the General Division in the class of membership that he or she held immediately before ceasing to hold that office.

2A. (1) The Governor-General shall have precedence, after the Sovereign, of all other members of the Order.

(2) His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, shall have precedence in the Order immediately after the Governor-General.

3. The Chancellor is charged with the administration of the Order.

4. (1) There shall be a Council for the Order, hereinafter called "the Council", which shall consist of—

(a) the Chief Justice of Australia;

(b) the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council;

(c) the person for the time being occupying the office of Secretary to the Department of the Special Minister of State or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed;

(d) the person for the time being occupying the office of Chief of the Defence Force or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed; and

(e) not more than 14 persons appointed by the Governor-General of whom—

(i) not more than 6 shall be persons nominated by the States of the Commonwealth of Australia; and

(ii) one may be a person nominated by the Northern Territory of Australia.

(2) A member of the Council referred to in paragraph (1) (e) shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of appointment and is eligible for re-appointment.

(3) The Governor-General shall appoint one of the members of the Council to be Chairman of the Council and another member of the Council to act as Chairman in the event of the Chairman being unavailable to act in the office.

5. The Council shall—

- (a) consider nominations of Australian citizens for appointment to the Order and for the award of the Medal of the Order;
- (b) make recommendations to the Governor-General in relation to those nominations; and
- (c) advise the Governor-General on such other matters concerning the Order as the Governor-General may refer to the Council for consideration.

6. (1) There shall be a Secretary of the Order who shall be appointed by the Governor-General.

(2) The Secretary shall maintain the records of the Order and of the Council, and shall perform such other functions in respect of the Order as the Governor-General directs.

7. The Governor-General may appoint such other officials for the Order as are, in the Governor-General's sole discretion, considered to be necessary for the purpose.

8. A person is not a member of the Order by reason only of that person being a member of the Council or an official of the Order.

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

9. Appointments (including honorary appointments) as members of the Order and awards of the Medal of the Order shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instrument signed by the Governor-General and sealed with the Seal of the Order.

10. Nothing in this Constitution limits the right of the Governor-General to exercise all powers and authorities of the Sovereign in respect of the Order.

GENERAL DIVISION

Eligibility for Appointment

11. (1) Australian citizens, including members of the Defence Force, are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members in the General Division.

(2) Persons other than Australian citizens are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the General Division.

(3) The Medal of the Order in the General Division may be awarded to Australian citizens and other persons.

Order of Australia—Companions in the General Division

12. (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the General Division shall be made for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Companion in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

* * * * *

14. The Governor-General may appoint to be Companions in the General Division, other than honorary Companions, not more than 25 persons in any calendar year.

Order of Australia—Officers in the General Division

15. (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the General Division shall be made for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Officer in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

16. The Governor-General may appoint to be Officers in the General Division, other than honorary Officers, not more than 100 persons in any calendar year.

Order of Australia—Members in the General Division

17. (1) Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the General Division may be made for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Member in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

18. The Governor-General may appoint to be Members in the General Division, other than honorary Members, not more than 225 persons in any calendar year.

Medal of the Order of Australia—Awards in the General Division

18A. (1) Awards of the Medal of the Order in the General Division may be made for service worthy of particular recognition.

(2) Awards of the Medal of the Order in the General Division shall not exceed 350 in any calendar year.

Nominations

19. Any person or organization may submit to the Secretary of the Order for consideration by the Council a nomination of an Australian citizen for appointment to the Order as a member in the General Division or a nomination of a person for the award of the Medal of the Order in the General Division.

MILITARY DIVISION

Eligibility for Appointment

20. (1) Members of the Defence Force are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members in the Military Division.

(2) Members of the armed forces of a country other than Australia are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the Military Division.

(3) In any calendar year, the number of appointments, other than honorary appointments, to the Military Division shall not exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the average number of persons who were members of the Defence Force on each day of the immediately preceding year.

(4) The Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be awarded to members of the Defence Force.

Order of Australia—Companions in the Military Division

21. (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the Military Division shall be made for eminent service in duties of great responsibility.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Companions in the Military Division, other than honorary Companions, a number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to five per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under sub-section 20 (3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

Order of Australia—Officers in the Military Division

22. (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the Military Division shall be made for distinguished service in responsible positions.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Officers in the Military Division, other than honorary Officers, a number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to twenty per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under sub-section 20(3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

Order of Australia—Members in the Military Division

23. Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the Military Division may be made for exceptional service or performance of duty.

Medal of the Order of Australia—Awards in the Military Division

23A. Awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be made for meritorious service or performance of duty.

Nominations

24. (1) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments as members of the Order in the Military Division and awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instruments signed by the Governor-General.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments as honorary members of the Order in the Military Division shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instruments signed by the Governor-General.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER AND CANCELLATION OF AN AWARD OF THE MEDAL

25. (1) A person does not cease to be a member or honorary member of the Order by reason only of that person ceasing to be eligible to be appointed to the Order.

(2) A person ceases to be a member or honorary member of the Order upon—

- (a) the death of the person;
- (b) the resignation of the person from the Order in writing, which resignation shall have effect from the day on which it is accepted by the Governor-General; or
- (c) the termination of the appointment of that person to the Order by Ordinance.

(3) An appointment that has been terminated may be restored by Ordinance.

(4) An award of the Medal of the Order may be cancelled by Ordinance, but an award that has been so cancelled may be restored by Ordinance.

* * * * *

INSIGNIA

27. When worn in Australia by an Australian citizen, the insignia of the Order shall be worn in the prescribed manner.

28. (1) Except as otherwise provided by Ordinance, the insignia of the Order shall remain the property of the Order.

(2) Where a person ceases, otherwise than by death, to be a member of the Order or to be a holder of the Medal of the Order, that person shall forthwith return to the Secretary of the Order the insignia of the Order.

SEAL

29. The Governor-General shall have the custody of the Seal of the Order.

ORDINANCES OF THE ORDER

30. The Governor-General may make Ordinances, not inconsistent with this Constitution, prescribing all matters that are required or permitted by this Constitution to be prescribed or are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Constitution, and, in particular, prescribing matters for or in relation to—

- (a) the government of the Order;
- (b) the insignia of the Order;
- (c) the designations of members of the Order; and
- (d) investitures.

ELIZABETH R

AUSTRALIA

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS it is desirable that there be established an Australian society of honour for the purpose of according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or for meritorious service:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, do establish a society of honour to be known as the "Order of Australia":

AND WE DO ordain that the Order shall consist of the Sovereign, Our Governor-General of Australia and such members and honorary members as Our Governor-General, with Our approval and in accordance with the Constitution of the Order, shall appoint:

AND WE DO further ordain that the Constitution of the Order shall be the Constitution set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO hereby command that a seal be immediately engraven, that that seal shall be the Seal of the Order, that the Ordinances of the Order shall be signed by Our Governor-General of Australia and sealed with the Seal of the Order, and that the Ordinances so signed and sealed shall have the same force and effect as if they had been recited in these Our Letters Patent and given under the Great Seal of Australia.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.



Given under the Great Seal
of Australia at Our Court at
St. James's on 14 February 1975

By Her Majesty's Command,

E. G. WHITLAM
Prime Minister

SCHEDULE
CONSTITUTION OF THE
ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

(From 14 February 1975 to 23 May 1976)

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

1. (1) The Order of Australia (hereinafter called "the Order") shall consist of a Civil Division and a Military Division.
- (2) A person appointed to the Order shall be appointed in the Civil Division or in the Military Division.
- (3) Appointment to the Order shall be as Companion, Officer or Member.
- (4) Every Australian citizen appointed to the Order shall be a member of the Order, and every other person appointed to the Order shall be an honorary member of the Order.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

2. The Governor-General of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order and the Principal Companion in the Civil Division.
3. The Chancellor is charged with the administration of the Order.
4. (1) There shall be a Council for the Order, hereinafter called "the Council", which shall consist of—
 - (a) the Chief Justice of Australia;
 - (b) the Vice-President of the Executive Council;
 - (c) the Secretary, Department of the Special Minister of State, or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed;
 - (d) the officer of the Defence Force occupying the office of Chief of the Defence Force Staff or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the officer of the Defence Force occupying the office so prescribed;
 - (e) not more than nine persons appointed by the Governor-General of whom not more than six shall be persons nominated by the States of Australia.
- (2) A member of the Council referred to in paragraph (1) (e) shall hold office for a period of two years from the date of his appointment and is eligible for re-appointment.
- (3) The Governor-General shall appoint one of the members of the Council to be Chairman of the Council and another member of the Council to act as Chairman in the event of the Chairman being unavailable to act in the office.

5. The Council shall—
- (a) consider nominations of Australian citizens for appointment to the Order;
 - (b) make recommendations to the Governor-General in relation to those nominations; and
 - (c) advise the Governor-General on such other matters concerning the Order as he may refer to the Council for consideration.
6. (1) There shall be a Secretary of the Order who shall be appointed by the Governor-General.
- (2) The Secretary shall maintain the records of the Order and of the Council, and shall perform such other functions in respect of the Order as the Governor-General directs.
7. The Governor-General may appoint such other officials for the Order as he, in his sole discretion, considers advisable.
8. A person is not a member of the Order by reason only of his being a member of the Council or an official of the Order.

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

9. Appointments (including honorary appointments) to the Order shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instrument signed by the Governor-General and sealed with the Seal of the Order and shall have effect from the date of the affixing of the Seal or, if a later date is specified in the Instrument, from that date.
10. Nothing in this Constitution limits the right of the Governor-General to exercise all powers and authorities of the Sovereign in respect of the Order.

CIVIL DIVISION

Eligibility for Appointment

11. (1) Australian citizens who are not members of the Defence Force are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members in the Civil Division.
- (2) Persons other than Australian citizens who are not members of the armed forces of any country are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the Civil Division.

Order of Australia—Companions in the Civil Division

12. (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the Civil Division shall be made for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Companion in the Civil Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.
13. Where a person ceases to hold office as Governor-General, he shall continue to be a Companion in the Civil Division.

14. The Governor-General may appoint to be Companions in the Civil Division, other than honorary Companions, not more than twenty persons in any calendar year.

Order of Australia—Officers in the Civil Division

15. (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the Civil Division shall be made for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Officer in the Civil Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

16. The Governor-General may appoint to be Officers in the Civil Division, other than honorary Officers, not more than fifty persons in any calendar year.

Order of Australia—Members in the Civil Division

17. (1) Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the Civil Division may be made for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Member in the Civil Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

18. The Governor-General may appoint to be Members in the Civil Division, other than honorary Members, not more than one hundred and twenty-five persons in any calendar year.

Nominations

19. Any person or organisation may submit to the Secretary of the Order for consideration by the Council a nomination of an Australian citizen for appointment to the Order as a member in the Civil Division.

MILITARY DIVISION

Eligibility for Appointment

20. (1) Members of the Defence Force are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members of the Military Division.

(2) Members of the armed forces of a country other than Australia are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the Military Division.

(3) In any calendar year, the number of appointments, other than honorary appointments, to the Military Division shall not exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the average number of persons who were members of the Defence Force on each day of the immediately preceding year.

Order of Australia—Companions in the Military Division

21. (1) Appointments as Companions or honorary Companions in the Military Division shall be made for eminent service in duties of great responsibility.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Companions in the Military Division, other than honorary Companions, a

number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to five per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under sub-section 20 (3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

Order of Australia—Officers in the Military Division

22. (1) Appointments as Officers or honorary Officers in the Military Division shall be made for distinguished service in responsible positions.

(2) The Governor-General may, in any calendar year, appoint as Officers in the Military Division, other than honorary Officers, a number of persons that is not greater than the number of persons that most closely approximates to twenty per cent of the total number of persons who may be appointed under sub-section 20 (3) to all categories of membership, other than honorary membership, in the Military Division in that year.

Order of Australia—Members in the Military Division

23. Appointments as Members or honorary Members in the Military Division may be made for exceptional service or performance of duty.

Nominations

24. (1) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments as members of the Order in the Military Division shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instruments signed by the Governor-General.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, appointments as honorary members of the Order in the Military Division shall be made, with the approval of the Sovereign, by Instruments signed by the Governor-General.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER

25. (1) A person does not cease to be a member or honorary member of the Order by reason only of his ceasing to be eligible to be appointed to the Order.

(2) A person ceases to be a member or honorary member of the Order upon—

(a) his death;

(b) his resignation from the Order in writing, which resignation shall have effect from the day on which it is accepted by the Governor-General; or

(c) the termination of his appointment to the Order by Ordinance.

(3) An appointment that has been terminated may be restored by Ordinance.

DESIGNATIONS AND INSIGNIA

26. (1) A Companion or honorary Companion of the Order is entitled—

(a) to have the letters "A.C." placed after his name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

(b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Companions of the Order.

- (2) An Officer or honorary Officer of the Order is entitled—
 - (a) to have the letters “A.O.” placed after his name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Officers of the Order.
- (3) A Member or honorary Member of the Order is entitled—
 - (a) to have the letters “A.M.” placed after his name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Members of the Order.

27. When worn in Australia by an Australian citizen, the insignia of the Order shall be worn in the prescribed manner.

28. (1) Except as otherwise provided by Ordinance, the insignia of the Order shall remain the property of the Order.

(2) Where a person ceases, otherwise than by death, to be a member of the Order, he shall forthwith return to the Secretary of the Order the insignia of the Order that was presented to him upon his appointment to the Order.

SEAL

29. The Governor-General shall have the custody of the Seal of the Order.

ORDINANCES OF THE ORDER

30. The Governor-General may make Ordinances, not inconsistent with this Constitution, prescribing all matters that are required or permitted by this Constitution to be prescribed or are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Constitution, and, in particular, prescribing matters for or in relation to—

- (a) the government of the Order;
- (b) the insignia of the Order; and
- (c) investitures.

ELIZABETH R

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St. James's the fourteenth day of February 1975, We did establish a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made other provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS We are minded to establish a new category of membership and a new award within the Order and to make further and other provision with respect to eligibility, membership and the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent of the fourteenth day of February 1975 be amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that appointments to a category in the Civil Division of the Order made before the date of these Our Letters Patent shall be treated as having been made to that category in the General Division of the Order.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.



Given under the Great Seal
of Australia at Our Court at
St. James's on 24 May 1976

By Her Majesty's Command,

MALCOLM FRASER

Prime Minister

SCHEDULE
(dated 24 May 1976)

AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

1. Section 1 is amended—
 - (a) by omitting “Civil” (wherever occurring) and substituting “General”;
 - (b) by omitting sub-section (3) and substituting the following sub-section:
“(3) Appointments to the Order shall be as Knight or Dame, Companion, Officer, or Member.”; and
 - (c) by adding at the end of the following sub-section:
“(5) There shall be a Medal of the Order called the ‘Medal of the Order of Australia.’”.
2. Section 2 is revoked and the following section substituted:
“2. The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order and the Principal Knight or Dame, as the case may be, in the General Division.”.
3. Section 4 is amended—
 - (a) by omitting from paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) “Executive Council” and substituting “Federal Executive Council”;
 - (b) by omitting from paragraph (c) of sub-section (1) “Department of the Special Minister of State”, and substituting “to the Department of Administrative Services”;
 - (c) by omitting from paragraph (e) of that sub-section “Australia” and substituting “the Commonwealth of Australia”; and
 - (d) by omitting from sub-section (2) “his”.
4. Section 5 is amended—
 - (a) by adding after “Order” in paragraph (a) “and for the award of the Medal of the Order”; and
 - (b) by omitting from paragraph (c) “he” and substituting “the Governor-General”.
5. Section 7 is revoked and the following section substituted:
“7. The Governor-General may appoint such other officials for the Order as are, in the Governor-General’s sole discretion, considered to be necessary for the purpose.”.
6. Section 8 is amended by omitting “his” and substituting “that person”.
7. Section 9 is amended by omitting “to the Order” and substituting “as members of the Order and awards of the Medal of the Order.”
8. The heading before section 11 is amended by omitting “CIVIL” and substituting “GENERAL”.
9. Section 11 is revoked and the following sections and heading substituted:
“11. (1) Australian citizens, including members of the Defence Force, are eligible to be appointed to the Order as members in the General Division.

“(2) Persons other than Australian citizens are eligible to be appointed to the Order as honorary members in the General Division.

“(3) The Medal of the Order in the General Division may be awarded to Australian citizens and other persons.

“Order of Australia—Knights and Dames in the General Division

“11A. (1) Appointments as Knights or Dames, or honorary Knights or Dames, in the General Division shall be made for extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

“(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a distinguished person who is not an Australian citizen may be appointed an honorary Knight or Dame in the General Division where it is desirable that the person be honoured by Australia.

“11B. Where a person ceases to hold office as Governor-General, he or she shall continue to be a Knight or Dame, as the case may be, in the General Division.

“11C. The Governor-General may appoint to be Knights and Dames in the General Division, other than honorary Knights and Dames, not more than two persons in any calendar year.”

10. The heading before section 12 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

11. Section 12 is amended by omitting “Civil” (wherever occurring) and substituting “General”.

12. Section 13 is revoked.

13. Section 14 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

14. The heading before section 15 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

15. Section 15 is amended by omitting “Civil” (wherever occurring) and substituting “General”.

16. Section 16 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

17. The heading before section 17 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

18. Section 17 is amended by omitting “Civil” (wherever occurring) and substituting “General”.

19. Section 18 is amended by omitting “Civil” and substituting “General”.

20. After section 18 the following heading and section are inserted:

“Medal of the Order of Australia—Awards in the General Division

“18A. Awards of the Medal of the Order in the General Division may be made for service worthy of particular recognition.”

21. Section 19 is amended by omitting “Civil Division” and substituting “General Division or a nomination of a person for the award of the Medal of the Order in the General Division”.

22. Section 20 is amended by adding at the end of the following sub-section:
“(4) The Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be awarded to members of the Defence Force.”.

23. After section 23 the following heading and section are inserted:

Medal of the Order of Australia—Awards in the Military Division

“23A. Awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division may be made for meritorious service or performance of duty.”.

24. Section 24 is amended by inserting after “Division” in sub-section (1) “and awards of the Medal of the Order in the Military Division”.

25. Section 25 is amended—

- (a) by omitting from sub-section (1) “his” and substituting “that person”;
- (b) by omitting paragraph (a) of sub-section (2) and substituting the following paragraph:
“(a) the death of the person;”;
- (c) by omitting from paragraph (b) of sub-section (2) “his resignation” and substituting “the resignation of the person”;
- (d) by omitting from paragraph (c) of sub-section (2) “his appointment” and substituting “the appointment of that person”; and
- (e) by adding at the end of the following sub-section:
“(4) An award of the Medal of the Order may be cancelled by Ordinance, but an award that has been so cancelled may be restored by Ordinance.”.

26. The heading before section 25 is amended by adding at the end “AND CANCELLATION OF AN AWARD OF THE MEDAL”.

27. Section 26 is revoked and the following section substituted:

“26. (1) A Knight or Dame, or honorary Knight or Dame, of the Order is entitled—

- (a) to have the letters ‘A.K.’ or ‘A.D.’, as the case may be, placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
- (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Knights of the Order, or Dames of the Order, as the case may be.

“(2) A Knight or Dame of the Order is entitled to use the title ‘Sir’ or ‘Dame’, as the case may be, before his or her name.

“(3) A Companion or honorary Companion of the Order is entitled—

- (a) to have the letters ‘A.C.’ placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
- (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Companions of the Order.

“(4) An Officer or honorary Officer of the Order is entitled—

- (a) to have the letters ‘A.O.’ placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
- (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Officers of the Order.

“(5) A Member or honorary Member of the Order is entitled—

- (a) to have the letters ‘A.M.’ placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and

- (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Members of the Order.
- “(6) A person who has been awarded the Medal of the Order is entitled—
 - (a) to have the letters ‘O.A.M.’ placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (b) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for holders of the Medal of the Order.”.

28. Section 28 is amended by omitting sub-section (2) and substituting the following sub-section:

“(2) Where a person ceases, otherwise than by death, to be a member of the Order or to be a holder of the Medal of the Order, that person shall forthwith return to the Secretary of the Order the insignia of the Order.”.

ELIZABETH R



ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St. James's the fourteenth day of February 1975, We did establish a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made other provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of Australia, bearing date at St. James's the twenty-fourth day of May 1976, We established a new category of membership of the Order, namely, membership as a Knight or Dame of the Order:

AND WHEREAS We are desirous that His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, be a Knight of the Order having precedence of all Knights and Dames of the Order, other than Our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia:

KNOW YOU that We, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent of the fourteenth day of February 1975 be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.



GIVEN under the Great Seal
of Australia at Our Court at
St. James's on 14 March 1981

By Her Majesty's Command,
MALCOLM FRASER
Prime Minister



SCHEDULE
(dated 14 March 1981)

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

After section 3 the following section is inserted:

“3A. His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, shall be a Knight in the General Division of the Order and shall have precedence of all Knights and Dames of the Order other than the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia”.

ELIZABETH R



ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETINGS:

WHEREAS by Letters Patent Dated 14 February 1975 We established a society of honour known as the "Order of Australia" and made provision with respect to membership and the Constitution of the Order:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Constitution of the Order:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the above-mentioned Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as amended by Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976, and by Letters Patent dated 14 March 1981, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, as set out in the Schedule:

AND WE DO ordain that the Order shall henceforth consist of the Sovereign, our Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, and such persons as have been appointed, or shall hereafter be appointed, to the Order:

AND WE DO further ordain that, notwithstanding the amendments to be made to the Constitution of the Order, a person who was a member of the Order immediately before the issue of these Our Letters Patent shall, subject to the Constitution of the Order, remain a member of the Order in the class of membership that the person held at that time:

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

GIVEN under the Great
Seal of Australia at Our Court at
Government House, Canberra on
3 March 1986

By Her Majesty's Command,

BOB HAWKE
Prime Minister



SCHEDULE
(dated 3 March 1986)

AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

1. Section 1 is amended by omitting "Knight or Dame" from sub-section (3).
2. Section 2 is revoked and the following section substituted:

"2. (1) The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be the Chancellor of the Order.

"(2) Where a person ceases to hold office as Governor-General, he or she shall continue to be a member of the Order in the General Division in the class of membership that he or she held immediately before ceasing to hold that office."
3. After section 2 the following section is inserted:

"2A. (1) The Governor-General shall have precedence, after the Sovereign, of all other members of the Order.

"(2) His Royal Highness Charles, Prince of Wales, shall have precedence in the Order immediately after the Governor-General."
4. Section 3A is revoked.
5. Section 4 is amended by omitting paragraphs 1(c), (d) and (e) and substituting the following paragraphs:

"(c) the person for the time being occupying the office of Secretary to the Department of the Special Minister of State or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed;

(d) the person for the time being occupying the office of Chief of the Defence Force or, if another office is prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph, the person occupying the office so prescribed; and

(e) not more than 14 persons appointed by the Governor-General of whom—

 - (i) not more than 6 shall be persons nominated by the States of the Commonwealth of Australia; and
 - (ii) one may be a person nominated by the Northern Territory of Australia."
 6. Section 9 is amended by omitting all words after "Order" (third occurring).
 7. Sections 11A, 11B and 11C, together with the heading immediately before section 11A, are revoked.
 8. Section 14 is amended by omitting "twenty" and substituting "25".
 9. Section 16 is amended by omitting "fifty" and substituting "100".
 10. Section 18 is amended by omitting "one hundred and twenty-five" and substituting "225".

11. Section 18A is amended by adding at the end thereof the following subsection:

“(2) Awards of the Medal of the Order in the General Division shall not exceed 350 in any calendar year.”.

12. The heading immediately before section 26 is amended by omitting “DESIGNATIONS AND”.

13. Section 26 is revoked.

14. Section 30 is amended by omitting “and (c) investitures.” and substituting the following paragraphs—

“(c) the designations of members of the Order; and
(d) investitures.”.

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE

I, SIR JOHN ROBERT KERR, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, hereby make the following Ordinance in pursuance of section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

Dated this First day of February, 1977.



JOHN R. KERR
Governor-General.

Sealed with the Seal of the
Order of Australia in the
presence of—

DAVID I. SMITH
*Official Secretary to
the Governor-General*

INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Insignia Ordinance. Short title.
2. (1) In this Ordinance, “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Order of Australia. Interpretation.
 - (2) Unless the contrary intention appears, an expression used in the Constitution and in this Ordinance has the same meaning in this Ordinance as in the Constitution.
 - (3) A reference in this Ordinance to the Riband of the Order in relation to insignia of a member of the Order is—
 - (a) in the case of a member of the Order in the General Division—a reference to the Riband of the Order in the General Division; and
 - (b) in the case of a member of the Order in the Military Division—a reference to the Riband of the Order in the Military Division.
 - (4) A reference in this Ordinance to the Riband of the Order in relation to the Medal of the Order is—
 - (a) where the Medal is awarded in the General Division—a reference to the Riband of the Order in the General Division; and

- (b) where the Medal is awarded in the Military Division—a reference to the Riband of the Order in the Military Division.
3. The Emblem of the Order is a single flower of mimosa, in the form of a convex disc. Emblem of the Order.
4. (1) The Riband of the Order in the General Division is a ribbon of moire Royal blue silk, 38 millimetres wide, with a central band 12 millimetres wide of scattered golden mimosa blossoms of various sizes. Riband of the Order.
- (2) The Riband of the Order in the Military Division is a ribbon of the size, colours and pattern described in sub-section (1) with the addition of a gold band 1.5 millimetres wide on each edge.
5. The Insignia of the Sovereign of the Order is a badge of the same material, fashion and size as the Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame of the Order but with such alterations as distinguish the Royal dignity. Insignia of the Sovereign.
6. The Insignia of the Chancellor of the Order is a badge of the same material, fashion and size as the Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame of the Order but with such alterations and additions as the Sovereign approves. Insignia of the Chancellor.
7. (1) The Insignia of a Knight of the Order consists of a Neck Badge and a Breast Badge. Insignia of Knight or Dame.
- (2) The Insignia of a Dame of the Order consists of a Shoulder Badge and a Breast Badge.
- (3) The Neck Badge of a Knight and the Shoulder Badge of a Dame consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 60 millimetres in diameter, of gold, jewelled and having in the centre of its convex surface, within a circle of gold, a representation of the Arms of the Commonwealth of Australia in full colour on a background of blue with two branches of mimosa in gold, the whole ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour.
- (4) The Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame consists of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 80 millimetres in diameter, of gold, jewelled and having in the centre of its convex surface, within a circle of gold, a representation of the Arms of the Commonwealth of Australia in full colour on a background of blue with two branches of mimosa in gold, the circle being ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour.
- (5) The Neck Badge of a Knight shall be worn about the neck suspended from the Riband of the Order.
- (6) The Shoulder Badge of a Dame shall be worn on the left shoulder suspended from the Riband of the Order tied in a bow.
- (7) The Breast Badge of a Knight or Dame shall be worn on the left side of the coat or outer garment.
8. (1) The Insignia of a Companion of the Order is a badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 60 millimetres Insignia of Companion.

in diameter, of gold, jewelled, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of blue enamel edged in gold, inscribed with the word "Australia" in gold capital letters and containing two sprigs of mimosa in gold.

(2) The Insignia of a Companion shall be worn in the same manner as the Neck Badge of a Knight or the Shoulder Badge of a Dame.

9. (1) The Insignia of an Officer of the Order is a badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 55 millimetres in diameter, of silver gilt, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of blue enamel edged with gold, inscribed with the word "Australia" in gold capital letters and containing two sprigs of mimosa in gold.

Insignia of Officer.

(2) The Insignia of an Officer shall be worn in the same manner as the Neck Badge of a Knight or the Shoulder Badge of a Dame.

10. (1) The Insignia of a Member of the Order is a badge consisting of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 45 millimetres in diameter, of silver gilt, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of the same material as the Emblem containing the word "Australia" in capital letters and 2 sprigs of mimosa.

Insignia of Member.

(2) The badge of a Member of the Order, when worn by men or by women in uniform, shall be worn on the left breast suspended from the Riband of the Order.

(3) The badge of a Member of the Order, when worn by women not in uniform, shall be worn on the left shoulder suspended from a Riband of the Order tied in a bow.

11. (1) The Medal of the Order shall consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 40 millimetres in diameter, of silver gilt, ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in silver gilt and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of the same material as the Emblem containing the word "Australia" in capital letters and 2 sprigs of mimosa.

Medal of the Order.

(2) The Medal of the Order, when worn by men or by women in uniform, shall be worn on the left breast suspended from a bar attached to a riband 32 millimetres wide and of the same pattern as the Riband of the Order.

(3) The Medal of the Order, when worn by women not in uniform, shall be worn on the left shoulder suspended from a bar attached to a riband 32 millimetres wide and of the same pattern as the Riband of the Order.

12. (1) The miniature badge to be worn by a Knight, Dame or Companion of the Order shall consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 20 millimetres in diameter, with a jewelled centre and ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward.

Miniatures.

(2) The miniature badge to be worn by an Officer or a Member of the Order shall consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 20 millimetres in diameter, having an enamelled blue centre and ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward.

(3) The miniature medal to be worn by a person to whom the Medal of the Order has been awarded shall consist of the Emblem of the Order, approximately 20 millimetres in diameter, having a small circle at the centre and ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward.

(4) Miniatures shall be worn suspended from a riband 16 millimetres wide and of the same pattern as the Riband of the Order.

13. The lapel badges to be worn by members of the Order and persons to whom the Medal of the Order has been awarded shall be as follows—

Lapel badges.

- (a) in the case of a Knight, Dame or Companion—the Emblem of the Order, approximately 10 millimetres in diameter and having a jewelled centre;
- (b) in the case of an Officer or Member—the Emblem of the Order, approximately 10 millimetres in diameter and having an enamelled blue centre; and
- (c) in the case of a person to whom the Medal of the Order has been awarded—the Emblem of the Order, approximately 10 millimetres in diameter and having a small circle at the centre.

14. (1) The Badge of the Secretary of the Order shall consist of 2 crossed quills of silver gilt surmounted by the Emblem of the Order, approximately 55 millimetres in diameter and of silver gilt, the Emblem being ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in full colour and having in the centre of its convex surface a circlet of blue enamel edged with gold, inscribed with the word “Australia” in gold capital letters and containing 2 sprigs of mimosa in gold.

Badge of Secretary.

- (2) The Badge of the Secretary of the Order shall be worn—
- (a) at ceremonies of the Order—suspended from a gold chain about the neck; and
 - (b) on other occasions—in the manner prescribed for the wearing of the insignia of a Companion of the Order in the General Division.

15. (1) A member of the Order in the General Division shall take precedence over a member of the same category in the Military Division.

Precedence.

(2) A person to whom the Medal of the Order has been awarded in the General Division shall take precedence over a person to whom the Medal of the Order has been awarded in the Military Division.

(3) Insignia of the Order and the Medal of the Order shall be worn in accordance with the Australian Order of Precedence of Honours and Awards as approved from time to time by the Queen.

16. (1) In any armorial bearings granted by the Garter Principal King of Arms to a member of the Order, armorial indications of rank within the Order may be included in accordance with this section.

Armo-
rial
bearings.

(2) Knights and Dames of the Order may be granted supporters.

(3) A person who is a Knight, Dame, Companion or Officer of the Order may surround his or her armorial bearings with a cirlet of the same design and colours as the cirlet that is at the centre of the Badge of a Companion of the Order and may suspend therefrom a representation of the Riband of the Order together with—

(a) in the case of a Knight or Dame—a representation of the Neck Badge of a Knight; and

(b) in any other case—a representation of his or her badge.

(4) A person who is a Member of the Order may suspend a representation of the Badge of a Member and the Riband of the Order from the bottom of the escutcheon containing his or her armorial bearings.

17. Where a person who is already a member of the Order is appointed to a higher class of membership in the same Division, the person shall return to the Secretary of the Order the insignia of the lower class of membership.

Return of
insignia on
promotion.

18. (1) A person who is a member of the Order in both the General Division and the Military Division is entitled to retain and wear the insignia of membership in both Divisions.

Member in
both Divisions
to retain
insignia in
both Divisions.

(2) A person who has been awarded the Medal of the Order in both the General Division and the Military Division is entitled to retain and wear the insignia of the award of both Divisions.

19. Where a person ceases to be an official of the Order the Badge of office issued to that person shall be restored for the service of the Order.

Badge of
official to be
restored on his
ceasing to hold
office.

20. (1) A person appointed to the Order shall be invested with the insignia of the Order by the Sovereign or the Chancellor or by such other person as the Sovereign or the Chancellor may authorise.

Investitures.

(2) Where a person appointed a Knight of the Order has not previously received the Honour of Knighthood, that Honour shall be conferred upon the person before he is invested with the insignia of the Order.

(3) The Chancellor may, by warrant under the Seal of the Order, permit the ceremony of investiture to be dispensed with in respect of any person named in the warrant.

ORDINANCE

I, SIR NINIAN MARTIN STEPHEN, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, hereby make the following Ordinance pursuant to section 30 of the Constitution of the Order of Australia.

Date this twelfth day of March, 1986.



N. M. STEPHEN
Governor-General

Sealed with the Seal of
the Order of Australia
in the presence of—

DAVID I. SMITH
*Official Secretary to the
Governor-General*

DESIGNATIONS AND INSIGNIA ORDINANCE

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Designations and Insignia Ordinance. Short title
2. (1) In this Ordinance, "Constitution" means the Constitution of the Order of Australia. Interpretation
(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, an expression used in the Constitution and in this Ordinance has the same meaning in this Ordinance as in the Constitution.
3. A member of the Order of Australia or a person awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia is entitled— Designations of members of the Order of Australia and of holders of the Medal of the Order of Australia.
 - (a) in the case of a Knight or Dame—to use the title "Sir" or "Dame", as the case may be, before his or her name;
 - (b) in the case of a Knight or Dame, or honorary Knight or Dame—
 - (i) to have the letters "A.K." or "A.D.", as the case may be, placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Knights of the Order or Dames of the Order, as the case may be;

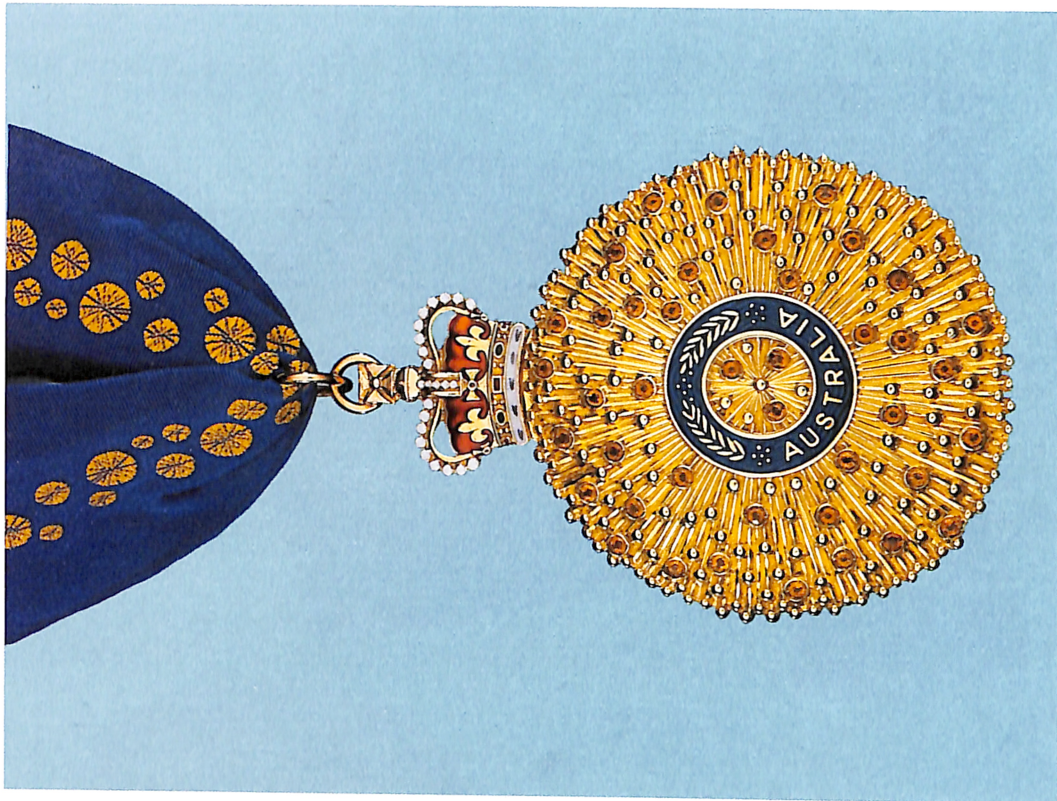
- (c) in the case of a Companion, or honorary Companion—
 - (i) to have the letters “A.C.” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Companions of the Order;
- (d) in the case of an Officer, or honorary Officer—
 - (i) to have the letters “A.O.” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Officers of the Order;
- (e) in the case of a Member, or honorary Member—
 - (i) to have the letters “A.M.” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for Members of the Order; or
- (f) in the case of the holder of the Medal of the Order—
 - (i) to have the letters “O.A.M.” placed after his or her name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary; and
 - (ii) to wear as a decoration the prescribed insignia for holders of the Medal of the Order.

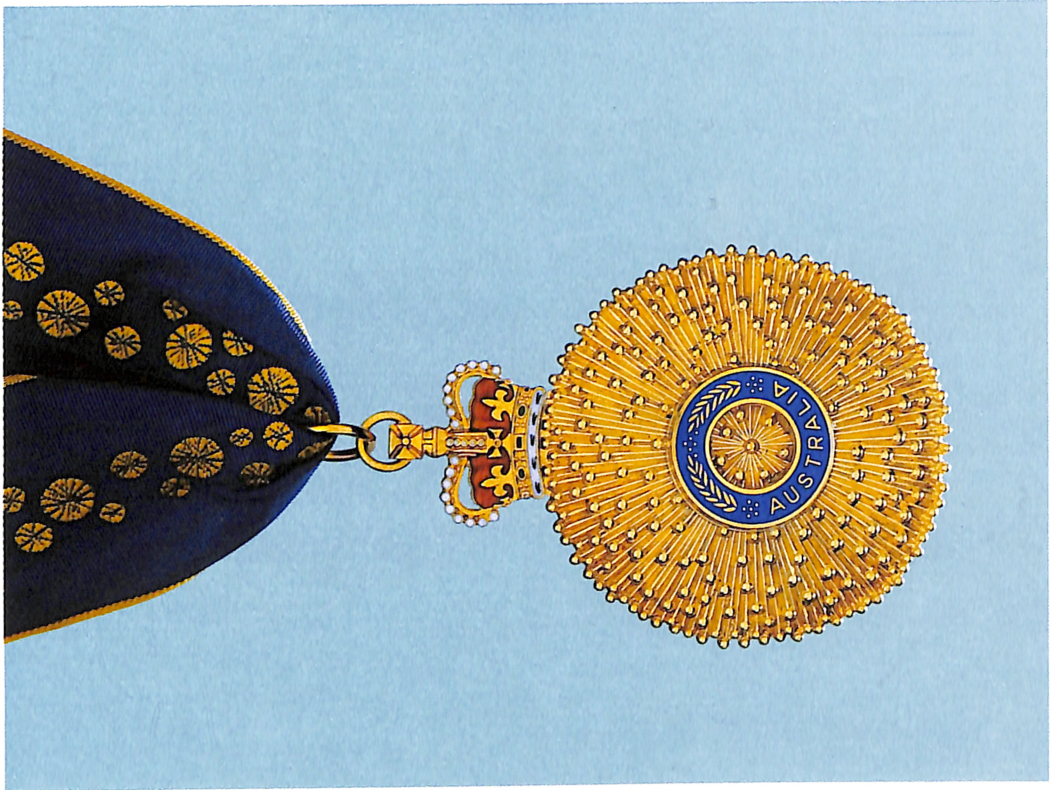
PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE INSIGNIA

NOTE: The manner of wearing Order of Australia insignia is described in a booklet *A Guide to the Wearing of Insignia* issued by the Governor-General's Office, Canberra.

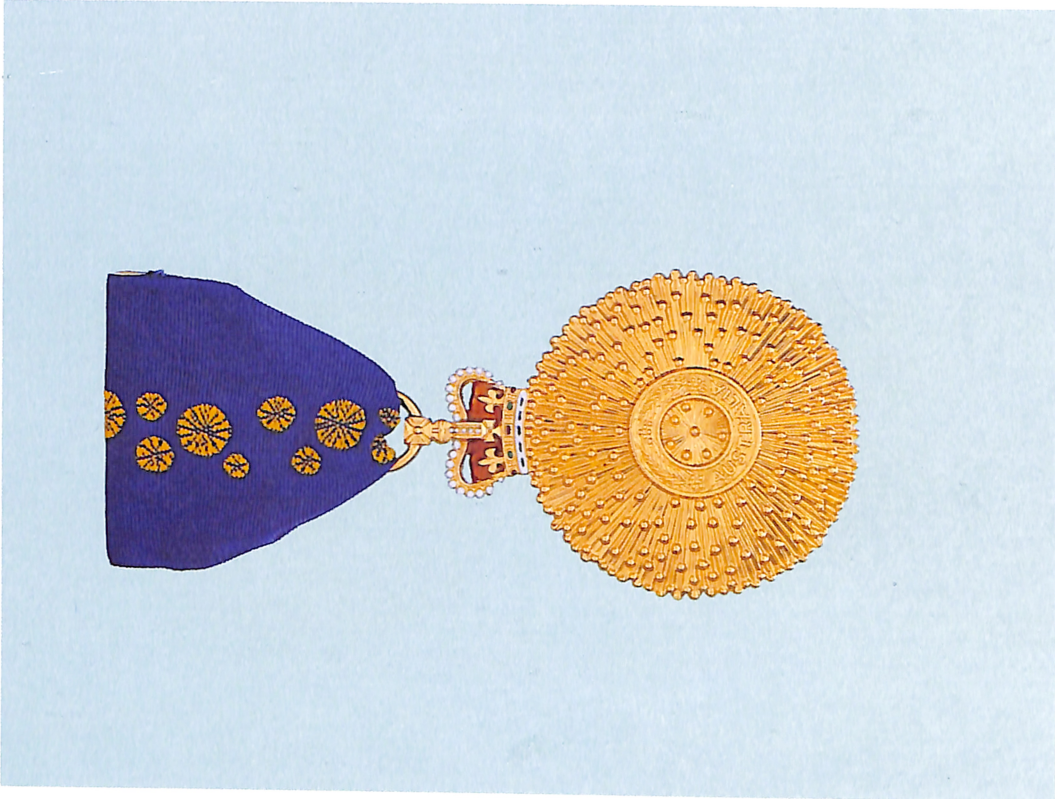


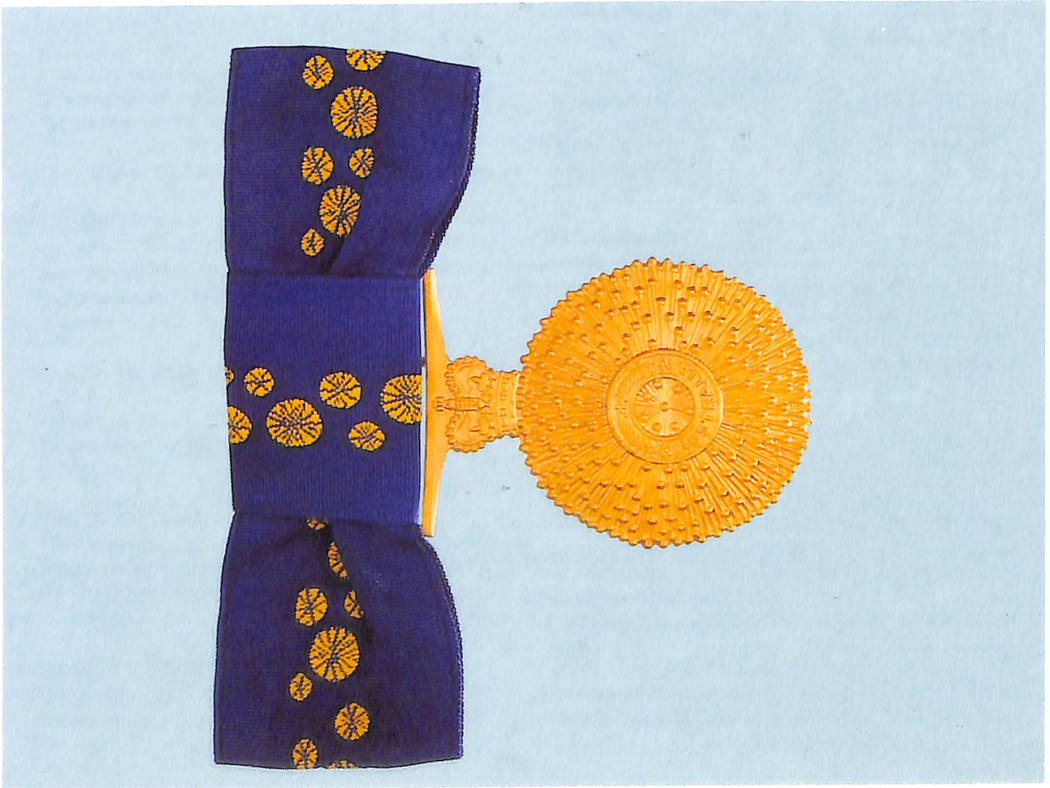
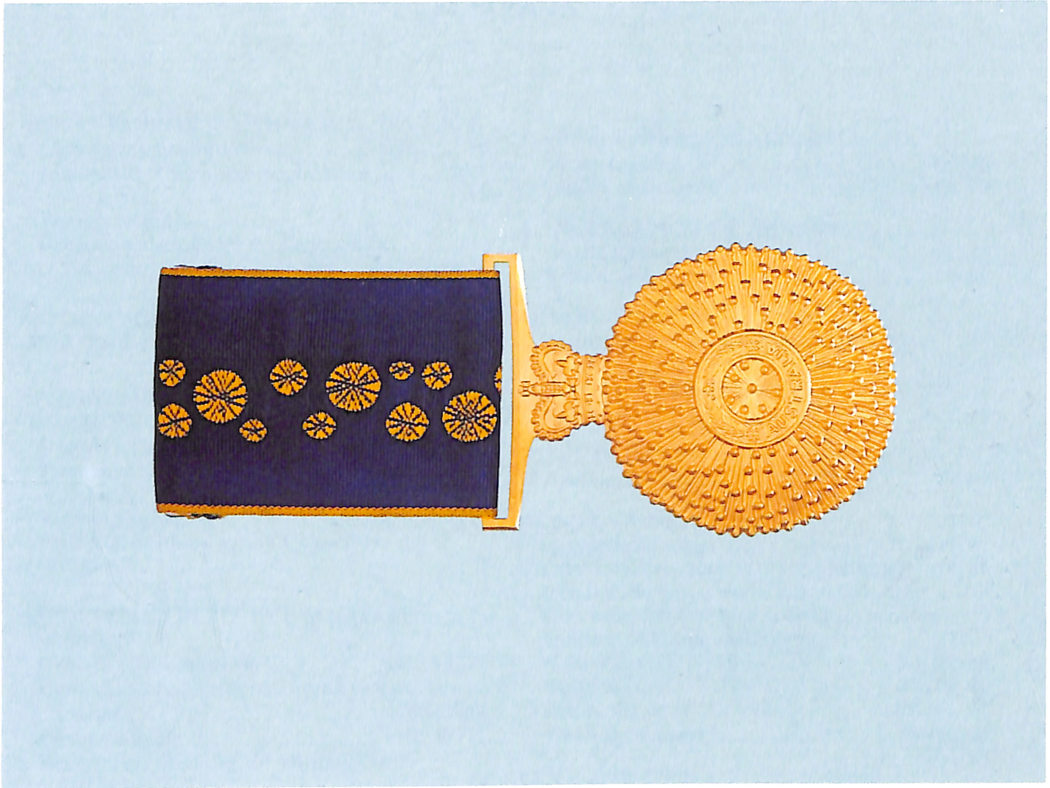
Knight/Dame





Officer





Medal

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